



3006

May 12, 2008

Dear Sector New Orleans Family Members:

The 2008 Hurricane Season begins on June 1<sup>st</sup> and ends November 30<sup>th</sup>. Although I realize hurricane season can create challenges and uncertainties; I hope to reduce your stress and anxiety by providing information to help you plan and prepare for the 2008 season.

To obtain the most up-to-date information on the unit's evacuation status, contact the **Sector New Orleans Hurricane Hotline number at (866) 504-USCG (8724)**. When a severe storm threatens the area, the hotline will be routinely updated and able to receive voice messages.

It is critical to bear in mind that Sector New Orleans personnel will be performing their duties before, during and after a hurricane. Therefore, establish a family plan to evacuate **without** your active duty spouse. Establishing a plan now will reduce anxiety levels during an actual evacuation.

Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian, Mississippi is the designated "safe haven"/evacuation site for New Orleans area Coast Guard personnel and families. The "safe haven"/evacuation site for Morgan City and Houma, including CGC Axe and ANT Morgan City, Coast Guard personnel and families will be one of the following locations: Barksdale Air Force, Fort Hood, Fort Polk, or Fort Sam Houston. The particular evacuation site will be designated dependent on the strength of the impending storm. Maps and directions to each site are included as enclosures.

The authority for evacuating personnel and families rests with the Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District. However, those personnel and families that reside in base housing should abide by an evacuation order given by a base commanding officer if it precedes one issued by the Eighth District. Once an evacuation order is issued by the Eighth Coast Guard District, you are eligible to receive reimbursement for mileage, per diem and lodging expenses incurred while traveling to the designated "safe haven".

When making your family evacuation plan, remember your family pets. When evacuating with a pet, it is important to bring along identification collars, travel kennel, shot records and dog food. Although pets are not permitted within the living quarters of the "safe haven" sites, NAS Meridian has available two vacant homes to serve as temporary kennel facilities for Coast Guard families to care for their pets. If this option is not acceptable to you, please make plans to kennel your pet elsewhere. AAA has guidebook listing hotels nationwide accepting pets.

After an evacuation order is issued, and often times before the order is issued, many roadways leaving the New Orleans area become congested very quickly; therefore, you should give serious consideration to whether you and your family should leave prior to the issuance of an evacuation order so that you can minimize your time in traffic. However, it is important to remember that reimbursement is not authorized unless and until the evacuation order is issued.



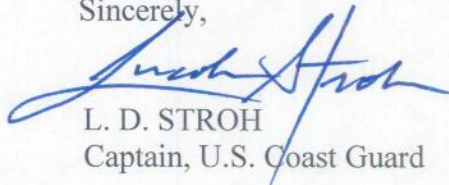
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Although it is preferred, it is not required that you and your family evacuate to a designated evacuation site. Some families choose to make evacuation arrangements based upon their particular needs and will typically stay with family, friends or in hotels. Should you choose to not evacuate to the designated evacuation site, you will likely incur non-reimbursable expenses. Should you and your family evacuate to a designated location and are advised accommodations are not available, you may procure lodging at a hotel. However, you must obtain a statement of non-availability of accommodations directly from authorized personnel at the "safe haven" in order to receive reimbursement. Additional mileage reimbursement for the distance from the "safe haven" to a hotel is only reimbursable if the statement of non-availability is obtained.

Regardless of your evacuation destination, please remember to **call our automated system at 1-866-504-USCG (8724) (extension 2) to report the status of your family members, your location, a call back number and special needs if any.** I ask that **if your evacuation plans do not include the Coast Guard member, please make the report as soon as you arrive to your safe haven or within 12 hours after the hurricane makes landfall.** This information requirement is extremely important, as it will be submitted to our senior commands at Coast Guard Headquarters and the Commandant of the Coast Guard. Please be aware that you could experience delays when calling 1-866-504-USCG (8724) due to the large number of people simultaneously trying to access the system. If you cannot reach our automated system after multiple attempts, please call the Maintenance and Logistics Command, Atlantic Command Center (MLCLANT CC) at 1-757-628-4440 or 1-866-418-5445. In the event that you are unable to contact MLCLANT CC please call the Atlantic Area Command (LANTAREA) emergency relocation site in St. Louis at 1-866-811-3323.

Your safety is extremely important to me. Therefore, I ask that you take the time to review the enclosed information and plan for a possible evacuation. If you have any questions or need *any* assistance, please contact the appropriate Hurricane Officer: MSU Morgan City and MSU Houma: MSTC Julia Hardee at (985) 380-5331, MSU Baton Rouge: LT Todd Peterson at (225) 298-5400 X-230 and all New Orleans units and all other subunits: LT Kerry Duke (504) 565-5071.

Sincerely,



L. D. STROH  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard

- Enclosures: (1) Map and Directions to NAS Meridian  
(2) Map and Directions to Barksdale Air Force Base  
(3) Map and Directions to Fort Hood  
(4) Map and Directions to Fort Polk  
(5) Map and Directions to Fort Sam Houston  
(6) Hurricane Awareness Websites



## New Orleans to NAS Meridian Driving Directions

START: NEW ORLEANS.

I-10 E.

I-59N via exit 267A toward Hattiesburg.

US-45N via exit 157B toward Macon.

Turn left onto Campground Rd.

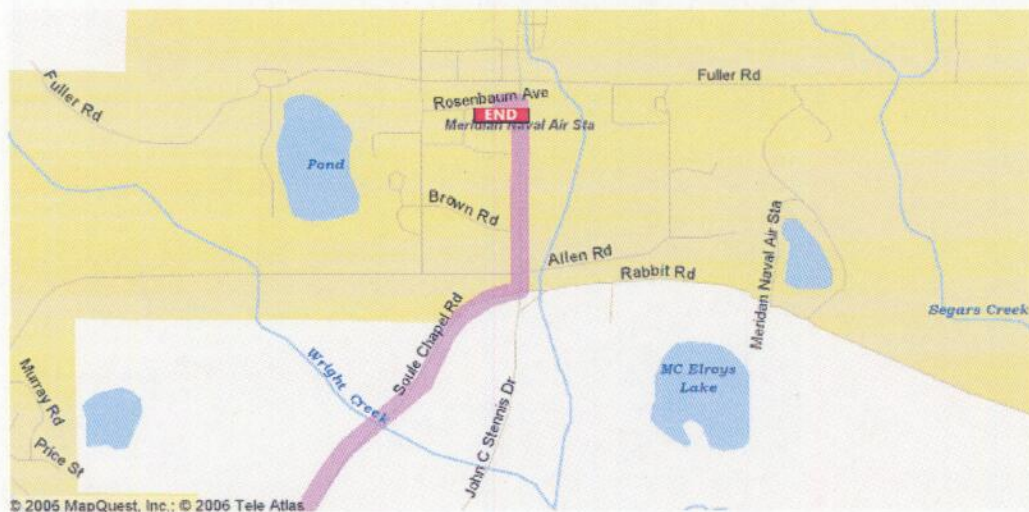
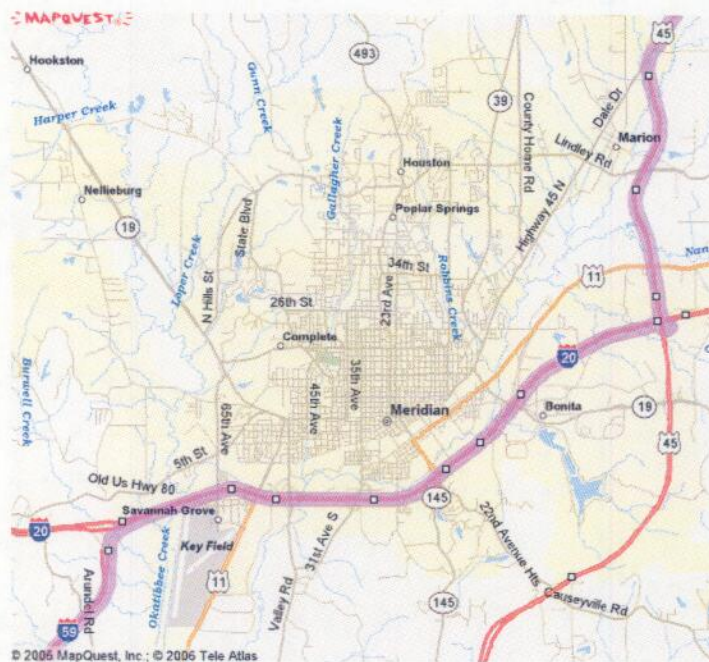
Stay straight to go onto Fred Clayton Rd.

Stay straight to go onto Soule Chapel Rd.

Turn left onto Whitaker Blvd.

Turn left onto Rosenbaum Ave.

END: NAS MERIDIAN.





## Morgan City to Barksdale AFB Driving Directions

START: MORGAN CITY.

Merge onto US-90 W.

US-90 W becomes US-167 N.

Stay straight to go onto I-49 N.

Merge onto I-20 E via exit 206 toward Monroe.

Take the Barksdale Blvd / US-71 S exit- exit 20C.

Turn slight right onto US-71 S / Barksdale Blvd.

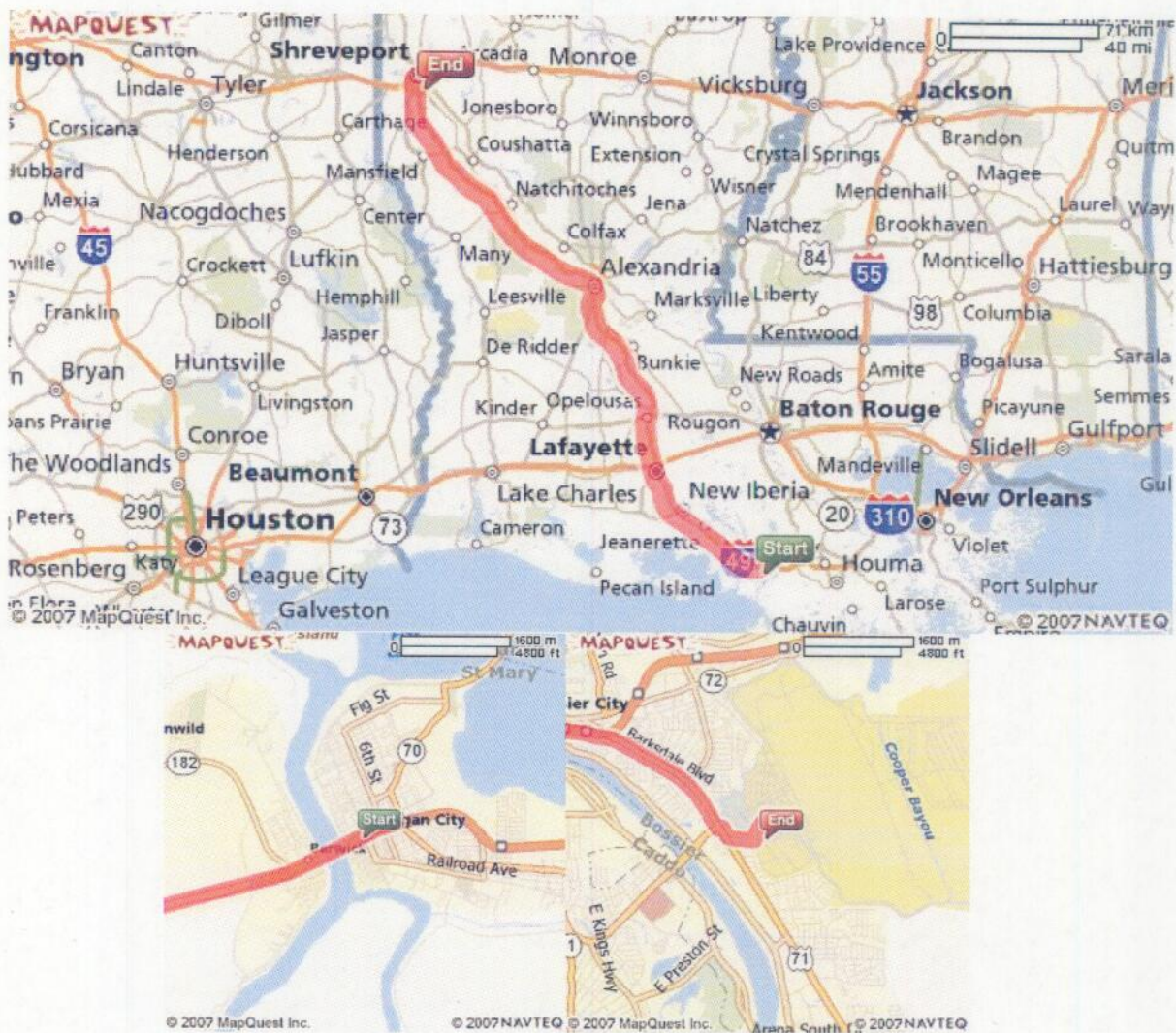
Turn left onto Barksdale AFB Blvd E.

Turn right onto Wilbur Wright Dr.

Turn left onto Langley Dr.

Turn right onto Rickenbacker Ave.

END: BARKSDALE AFB.





## Morgan City to Fort Hood Driving Directions

START: MORGAN CITY.

Merge onto US-90 W.

US-90 W becomes US-167 N.

Merge onto I-10 W via EXIT 1A toward Lake Charles.

Merge onto I-610 N via exit 775A.

Merge onto US-290 W via exit 13B toward Austin.

Merge onto TX-36 N.

Turn left onto US-190 / US-79 / TX-36.

Turn slight right onto US-190 W / TX-36 W.

Turn left onto I-35 S.

Merge onto I-35 S / US-190 W / US-81 S.

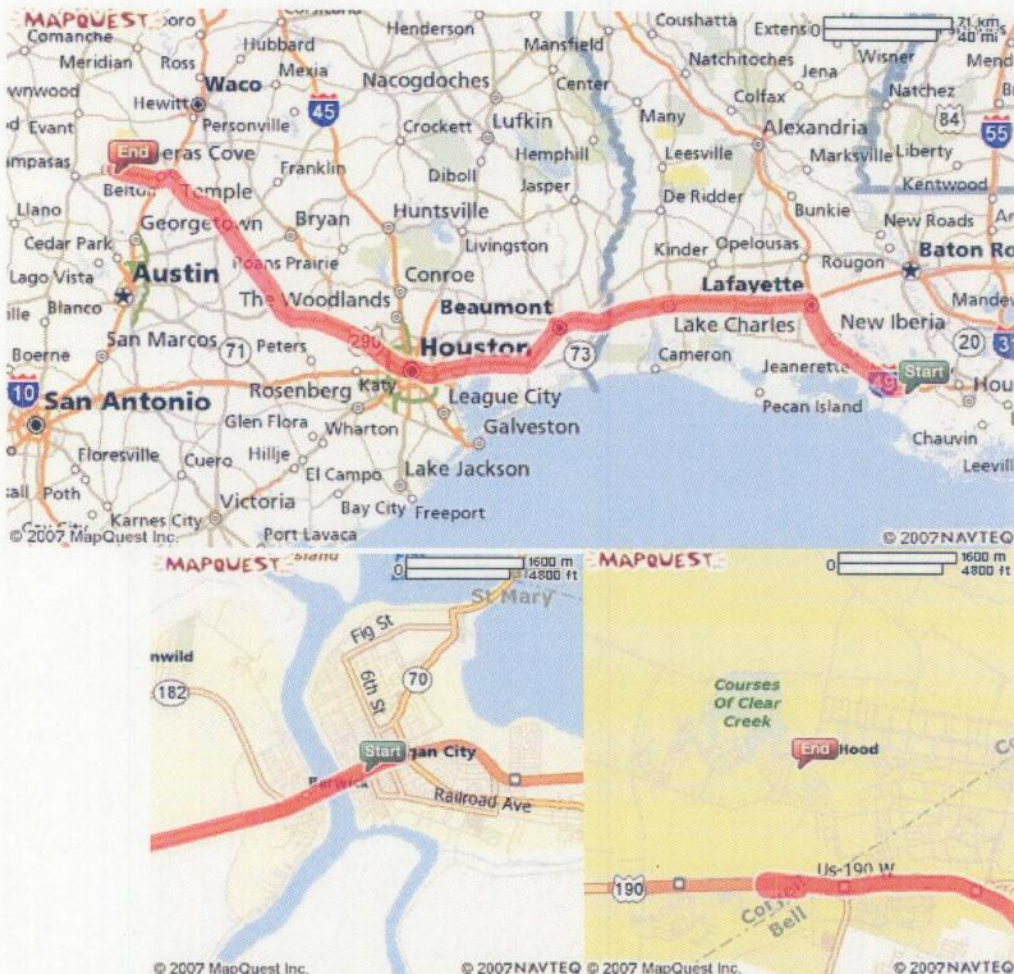
Merge onto US-190 W via exit 293A toward Killeen / Ft Hood.

Take the Bell Tower Dr exit.

Turn left onto Bell Tower Dr.

Turn left to stay on Bell Tower Dr.

END: FORT HOOD.





## Morgan City to Fort Polk Driving Directions

START: MORGAN CITY.

US-90 W.

US-90 W becomes US-167 N.

Take the US-167 / LA-744 exit- EXIT 23- toward Ville Platte.

Turn left onto US-167 N / LA-744 W. Continue to follow US-167 N.

US-167 N becomes LA-10.

Turn right onto LA-10 / S 21st St.

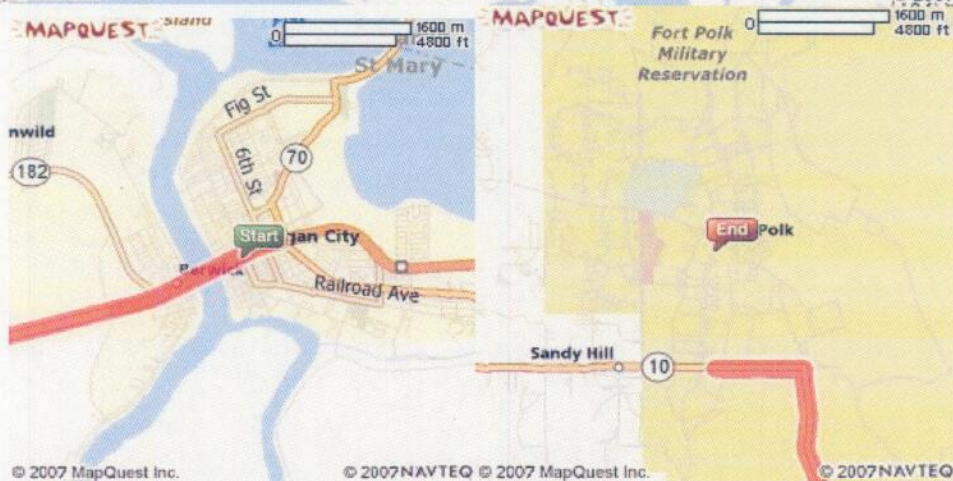
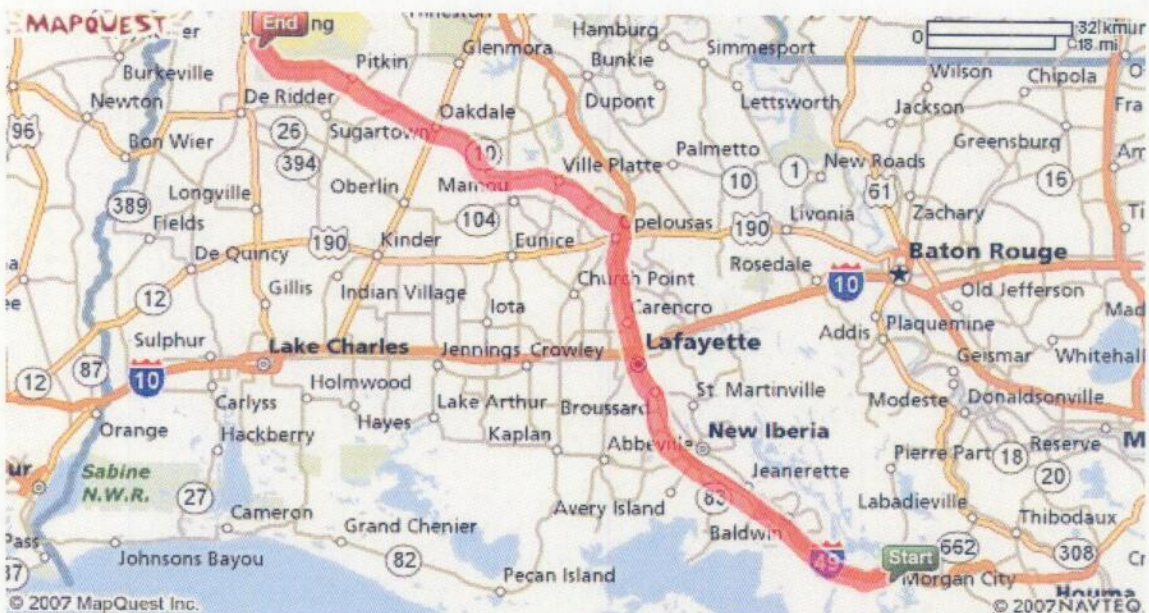
Turn left onto LA-10 / E Jackson St.

Turn right onto LA-10 / Irene St. Continue to follow LA-10.

Turn left onto LA-10 W / E 6th Ave. Continue to follow LA-10 W.

Turn left onto LA-10.

END: FORT POLK.





## Morgan City to Fort Sam Houston Driving Directions

START: MORGAN CITY.

US-90 W.

US-90 W becomes US-167 N.

Merge onto I-10 W via exit 1A toward Lake Charles.

Merge onto I-410 N via exit 581.

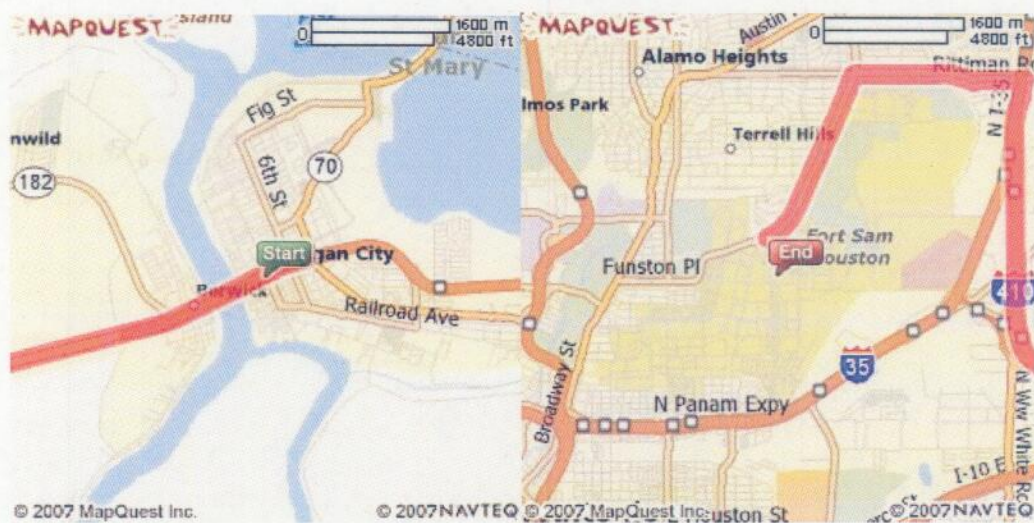
Take exit 164A toward Rittiman Rd.

Turn slight left onto N Pan Am Expwy / N I-35.

Turn left onto Rittiman Rd.

Turn left onto Harry Wurzbach Hwy.

END: FORT SAM HOUSTON.





## Hurricane Awareness Websites

### *Local Television Stations:*

News Channel 4: [www.wwltv.com](http://www.wwltv.com)

New Channel 6: [www.wdsu.com](http://www.wdsu.com)

### *Weather:*

The Weather Channel: [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com)

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration: [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov)

### *Preparedness Guides:*

The American Red Cross: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

The American Red Cross in Louisiana: [www.preparelouisiana.redcross.org](http://www.preparelouisiana.redcross.org)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency: [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

LA Office of HLS and Emergency Preparedness: [www.ohsep.louisiana.gov](http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov)

LA Department of Transportation and Development: [www.dotd.louisiana.gov](http://www.dotd.louisiana.gov)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency: [www.fema.gov/areyouready/](http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/)

### *Local Government:*

The New Orleans Regional Chamber of Commerce: <http://www.neworleanscvb.com/>

The City of New Orleans: [www.cityofno.com](http://www.cityofno.com)

The New Orleans Police Department: [www.nopdonline.com](http://www.nopdonline.com)

### *By Parish:*

<http://www.metairie.com/gov/localgov.htm>

### *Local Information:*

New Orleans: [www.nola.com](http://www.nola.com)

Port of New Orleans: [www.portno.com](http://www.portno.com)

New Orleans Contra Flow map: [www.ohsep.louisiana.gov/evacinfo/no\\_contraflow.htm](http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov/evacinfo/no_contraflow.htm)